

Applicants: John O'Connor, et al.
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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-57. (Canceled)

58. (Currently Amended) A method for predicting pregnancy outcome in a subject comprising the steps of:

- (a) (i) contacting the first portion of a sample from the subject with a first antibody which binds to an epitope of early pregnancy-associated molecular isoform of hCG (EPMI-hCG), wherein the epitope is an epitope to which isoform is recognized by the B152 antibody deposited with the American Type Culture Collection under Designation No. HB-12467 binds when contacted therewith;
- (ii) contacting the sample resulting from (a) (i) with a second, labeled antibody which binds to EPMI-hCG simultaneously with the first antibody;
- (iii) measuring the amount of any bound second antibody in the sample, so as to thereby determine the amount of EPMI-hCG in the sample;
- (b) (i) contacting a second portion of the sample from the subject with a third antibody which binds to intact non-nicked hCG;

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(ii) contacting the sample resulting from (b)(i) with a fourth, labeled antibody which binds to intact, non-nicked hCG simultaneously with the third antibody;

(iii) measuring the amount of bound fourth antibody in the sample, so as to thereby determine the amount of intact hCG in the sample, with the proviso that steps (a) and (b) can be performed in any order; and

(c) determining the ratio of EPMI-hCG to intact hCG in the sample from the measurements performed in (a)(iii) and (b)(iii), wherein a ratio greater than 1 indicates a positive pregnancy outcome and a ratio less than 1 indicates a negative pregnancy outcome.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the first and third antibodies are bound to a solid support.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the sample is a urine sample.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the urine sample is obtained from the subject within the first five weeks of pregnancy.

62-67. (Canceled)